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LETTER DATED 22 JULY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF AZERBAIJAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to inform you that Armenian armed forces are continuing the attack on the city of Agdam which they began on 21 July. Battles are currently going on in the outskirts of the city. Agdam's western suburbs of Chukhurmekhle and Akhmadavar have passed under the control of Armenian armed formations. Armenian artillery is subjecting Agdam to rocket artillery shelling, directing fire also inside the city and shelling roads leading to Agdam.

According to information from the local authorities, yesterday's shelling has resulted in 40 dead and more than 100 wounded among the civilian population. There is destruction of catastrophic proportions in the city.

Reports being spread by the Armenian side about the alleged offensive mounted by the Azerbaijani army against Askeran and the shelling of Hankendi are disinformation and are an attempt to justify its flagrantly aggressive actions directed towards territories outside the highland part of Karabakh.

Early this morning, Armenian troops, supported by armoured vehicles, went into the offensive to the north of Agdam from the direction of the earlier occupied village of Chullu and also in the north of Karabakh. The high ground in the direction of the town of Terter was taken by them here. In the south of Karabakh, villages of Djebrail and Fizuli districts were shelled.

At the same time, the villages of Mor-Mor and Novoivanovka in the Kedabek district of the Azerbaijani Republic were subjected to artillery shelling from the territory of Krasnoselsk district in Armenia.

The fact that the large-scale offensive by the Armenian armed forces began on 20 July, the very day when the Karabakh Armenians were due to decide whether they agreed with the CSCE schedule of urgent measures, including the schedule for the withdrawal of troops from Kelbajar district, is proof of their true aims in this conflict and their stubborn refusal to move towards a peaceful settlement.

The Azerbaijani side is convinced that the actions of the Armenian armed forces represent a gross violation of the Charter of the United Nations and calls on the United Nations and the international community as a whole to take every measure available with a view to preventing the spread of the Armenian armed aggression against the Azerbaijani Republic.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hassan A. HASSANOV
Ambassador
Permanent Representative